

### **REMARKS**

This response to the Office Action mailed on February 23, 2005, and the references cited therewith, cancels claim 5, amends claims 1, 4, and 6, and adds no new claims. As a result, claims 1-4 and 6-23 pending in the Application.

Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 22, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) for anticipation by Shampo (U.S. Patent No. 5,911,328). Claims 8 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Shampo in view of Scott et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,446,929).

Independent claims 1, 4, and 6 are amended as suggested on [page 3 of the Office Action to include a recitation that the slots are curved horizontally with respect to the vertical axis to provide friction. These claims further include the suggested language of claim 5, that the slots slant upwardly toward the vertical axis.

In the Shampo patent, the slots face downwardly, without any curvature to provide friction. Scott merely provides a rotatable base, and does not suggest slots of any kind.

Claims 10-21 were allowed in the previous Office action. The language of allowable claim 5 has been incorporated into independent claims 1, 4, and 6, so that claim 5 is now redundant.

**Conclusion**

For the above reasons, Applicant urges that the claims meet all statutory conditions, and respectfully requests reexamination and allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (612) 373-6971 with any questions or suggestions, in order to reduce expenses to this individual Applicant.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.


Respectfully submitted,

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Date 23 MAY 2005

By   
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 23 day of May, 2005.

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